

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully considered the August 19, 2005 Office Action regarding the above-identified application, and amendments above together with the remarks that follow are presented in a bona fide effort to respond thereto and address all issues raised in that Action. The specification has been amended to clarify the wording on several points, as will be discussed below, and several of the claims have been amended for clarification on similar points. The last paragraph of claim 1 has been amended to more clearly distinguish over applied art. Applicants have added dependent claim 21. Unless specifically referenced in a traversal of an art rejection below, it is believed that revised claim language only provides improved grammar or clarity and as such does not narrow the scope of any amended claim. Care has been taken to avoid entry of new matter. For reasons discussed below, it is believed that this case is in condition for allowance. Prompt favorable reconsideration of this amended application is requested.

As noted, the specification and claims have been amended to clarify several terms. For example, the specification and claims originally referred to a “light bulb” for modulating light; and the description suggested that a liquid crystal panel constitutes the light bulb means (see e.g. page 1). Normally, a “light bulb” is a glass sphere or the like with a filament inside for producing light in response to electric current flowing through the filament, that is to say a specific type of illumination source, and the second paragraph on page 1 correctly refers to an “electric bulb” as a light source. It is believed that the term light “valve” is a more accurate descriptor for a light modulating element such as a liquid crystal panel, as distinguished from the illumination source. Hence, the specification and claims have been amended throughout so as to replace “bulb” with valve in the various references to the modulating element or the liquid crystal panel. It is respectfully submitted that one of skill in the art would have understood the

original disclosure and recognized that the liquid crystal panel was an example of a light valve, not a light bulb. Hence, such amendments should not introduce new subject matter.

Also, the specification and claims have been amended throughout so as to replace “heat-melting high-molecule material” with the clearer phrase “thermoplastic high-molecular weight material.” The specification originally referred to the material at least once as being “thermoplastic” (see page 20, lines 4-10). Also, it is believed that one of skill in the art would have recognized that the various references to “high-molecule material” more accurately described a “high-molecular weight” material. Hence, these further amendments also should provide greater clarity but should not introduce new subject matter.

In paragraph 1, the Detailed Action set forth a requirement for a new more descriptive title. By amendment above, Applicants have changed the title of this application to “PROJECTION TYPE IMAGE DISPLAY WITH ADJUSTABLE LENS HOLDING STRUCTURE.” It is submitted that this expanded title is adequately descriptive of the subject matter disclosed in the specification of this case.

Claims 1-4 and 7-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,247,817 to Ogawa et al. (hereinafter Ogawa). Independent claim 1 has been amended to more clearly distinguish the claimed subject matter over Ogawa. Applicants therefore submit that Ogawa does not anticipate amended claim 1 or any of the claims that depend therefrom.

Claim 1 now specifies an intermediate holding member. The recited member includes a protrusion. A spring portion is bent by pressing the protrusion against the holding member. Also a frame is provided for mounting one of the lenses to the intermediate holding member. Support for the amended claim language can be found throughout the specification. In the

detailed description, for example, attention is directed to the discussion of Figs 5, 6A and 6B (pages 11-14).

It may be helpful to consider one of the disclosed examples (see e.g. Fig. 5). A spring portion 414 is formed on the side of the frame 412. A combination of the spring 414 and a groove 350 in the case 320 form a temporary holding means upon adjustment. When a lens, such as the focus lens 410, is inserted into the groove 350, the protrusion 418 is pressed by an inclined plane 353, which bends the spring 414 (see Fig. 6B). The reaction force of the bent spring 414 is received by the pressing plane 352 on the side of the protrusion 418 and is received by the receiving plane 351 on the side of the plane 415 opposite to the protrusion 418. The resulting frictional forces stop the focus lens C portion 410 in the optical engine case 320 of the rigid body. As disclosed, the unique structure enables adjustments, for example, in the various optical axis directions, up/down and left/right directions, including in two directions other than the direction for pressing on the protrusion.

Ogawa does not disclose an intermediate holding member that includes a protrusion and spring portion. The art rejection cited structures shown in Figs. 11A as allegedly satisfying holding structure and spring requirements of Applicants original claims. Ogawa actually discloses a structure of fixing a lens, in back and forth directions with respect to the optical path, by means of a fixed spring and screw. Ogawa also discloses fixing a lens with regard to the lateral direction by using an adjustment screw and alignment spring (c.f. column 10, line 60, to column 11, line 9; and column 21, line 36, to column 22, line 18). As shown in Fig. 11A, lens 390 is fixed against movement in the optical path $\pm Z$ direction by springs 782, 783. As shown in Fig. 11B, the lens 390 is fixed against movement in the X direction by spring 765; and the lens 390 is fixed against movement in the Y direction by spring 769. Accordingly, in the structure of

Ogawa, one spring is required for each direction. Furthermore, since an alignment spring is utilized as the retention spring, an adjustment by screw (e.g. 766) is necessary for fixing the lens position after fine adjustment. This arrangement in Ogawa does not provide an intermediate holding member including a protrusion, a spring portion bent by pressing the protrusion against the holding member, and a frame for mounting one of the lenses to the intermediate holding member, as recited in claim 1. Hence, Ogawa does not meet the independent claim requirements and does not anticipate any of the rejected claims. Withdrawal of the art rejection of claims 1, 3, 4 and 7-9 is requested.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 5, 6, 10, 14 and 18 would be allowable if recast in independent form and note the Examiner's a statement of reasons for allowance regarding these claims. However, it is believed that the independent claim is patentable, for reasons discussed above and that claims 5, 6, 10, 14 and 18 are patentable therewith. Hence, recasting claims 5, 6, 10, 14 and 18 in independent form should be unnecessary at this time. In response to the comments, it is respectfully submitted that the allowed claims should be entitled to the broadest reasonable interpretation and to the broadest range of equivalents that are appropriate in light of the language of the claims and the supporting disclosure, without reference to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

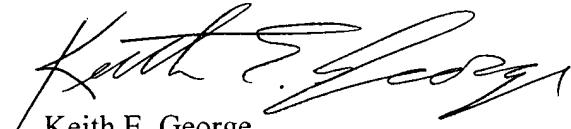
Upon entry of the above claim amendments, claims 1 and 3-21 are active in this application, all of which should be novel and patentable over the art applied in the Action. Applicants therefore submit that all of the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, this case should now be ready to pass to issue; and Applicants respectfully request a prompt favorable reconsideration of this matter.

It is believed that this response addresses all issues raised in the August 19, 2005 Office Action. However, if any further issue should arise that may be addressed in an interview or by an Examiner's amendment, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Applicants' representative at the number shown below.

To the extent necessary, if any, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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